

# 'Value Added Air Monitoring" in San Lorenzo Valley California

EPA National Air Monitoring
Workshop May 2012
Denver CO

### **Thanks**

- ➤ EPA Region IX Staff
  - Matt Lakin
  - Meredith Kurpius
  - Kate Hoag
- ➤ This would not been feasible without the help!



## Adding Value

- There is more to life that filling a data base!!
- ► It's not 2002!
  - The debates are over.
- ➤ Timeline to developing strategies now on the order of months not years!
- Highly visible to the Public!

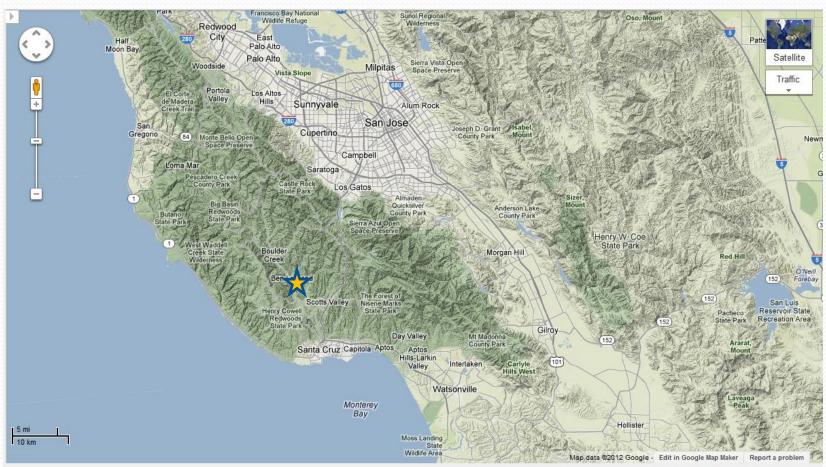


## San Lorenzo Valley Home of the Redwoods

- Narrow valley that is decoupled from regional meteorology
- ➤ Dense land use. ~13k residents
- Longstanding behaviors of burning wood for home heating
- Burning of yard waste instead of recycling

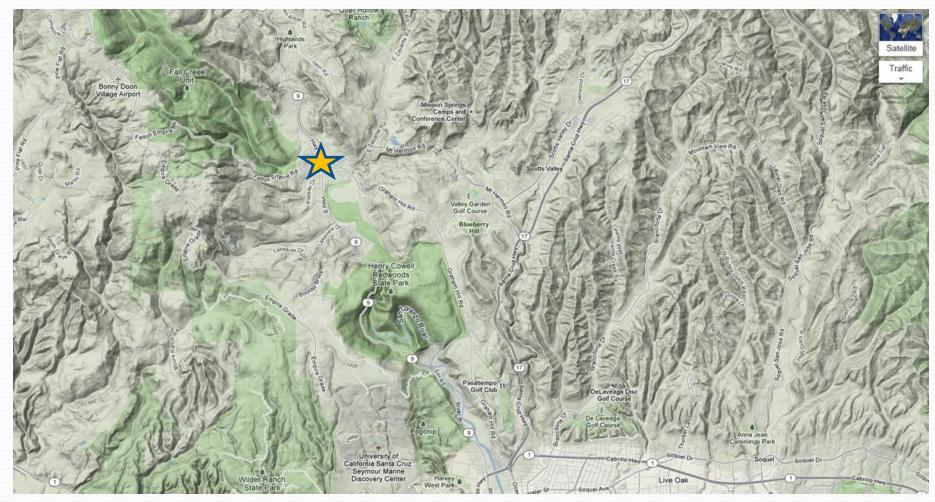


## Regional View



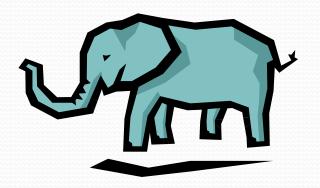


## San Lorenzo Valley





#### The Past



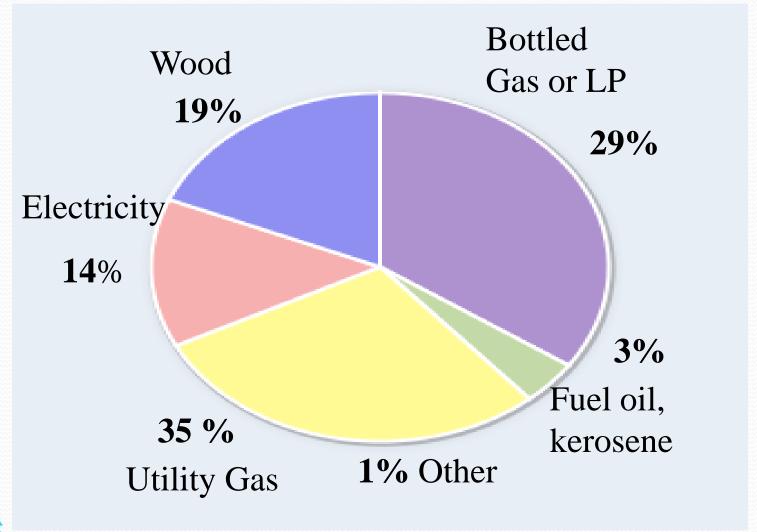
- Long history of receiving complaints from citizens
  - > EPA and ARB involved
- Limited District response
  - Outreach letters
  - Enforcement
  - Stove replacements
- Past Air Monitoring Survey
  - PM10 levels suggested problems
  - > Technology limitations
  - ➤ Pre dated PM2.5 standards

#### Two Distinct Issues

- Residential home heating emissions
  - Many homes use wood as a sole source or primary of heat
    - · ~2,600
- Outdoor Burning of Green Waste
  - Public Nuisance
  - Not driving exceedances



## Home Heating Choices





## Smoke Survey

#### **Ugly**



#### **Results**

- 102 Observations
- ~86 % of all chimney's observed were above acceptable opacity levels

## Good Burn Pile





## Bad Burn Pile



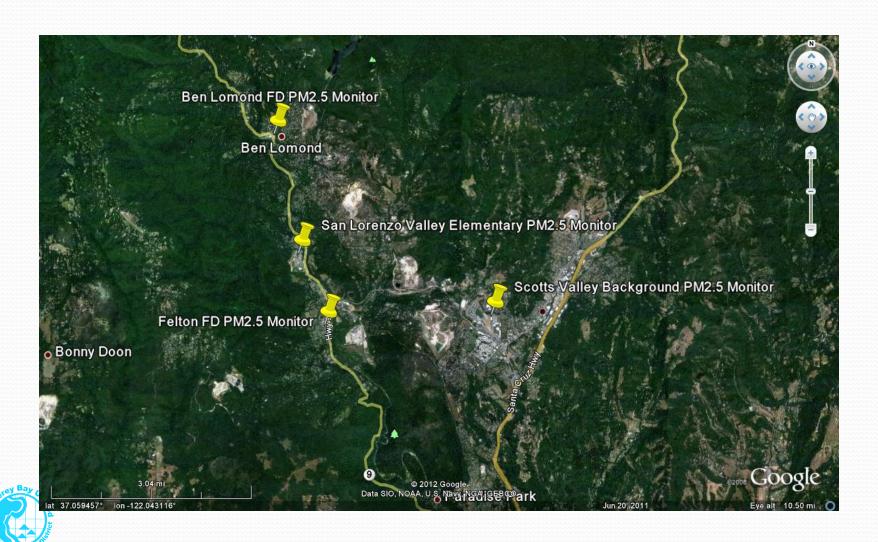


## Established a Monitoring Network

- > Four sites
  - 3 Neighborhood scale
  - 1 Middle Scale
    - To represent concentrations in many residential areas
- ►PM2.5 and Met
- ➤ November March operation
  - Extended to April



## Air Monitoring network



Right: Typical E-BAM PM2.5 configuration in the field with communications box in front, E-BAM particulate analyzer and inlet head in back, temperature sensor on left side, and Wind Speed/Wind Direction Sensor unit on right side.

Below: E-BAM cover opened to illustrate filter tape, nozzle assembly, and control/indicator panel.

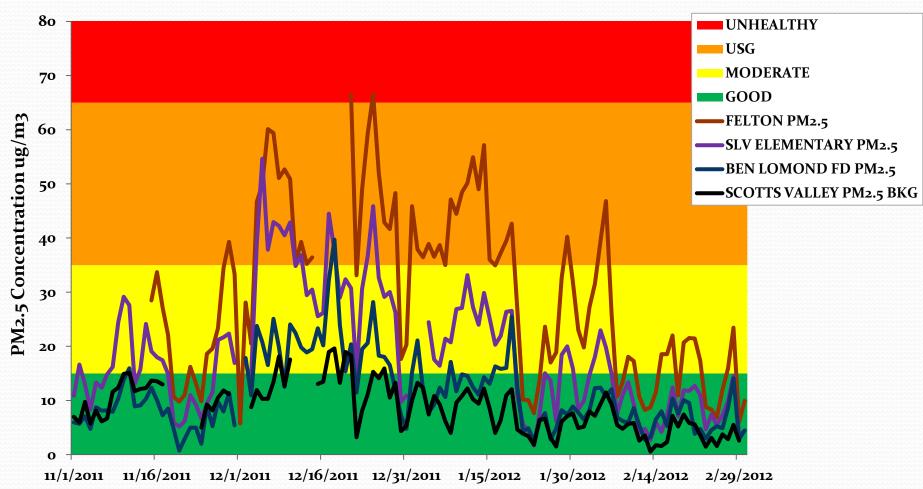






#### **PM2.5 Daily Monitoring Results**

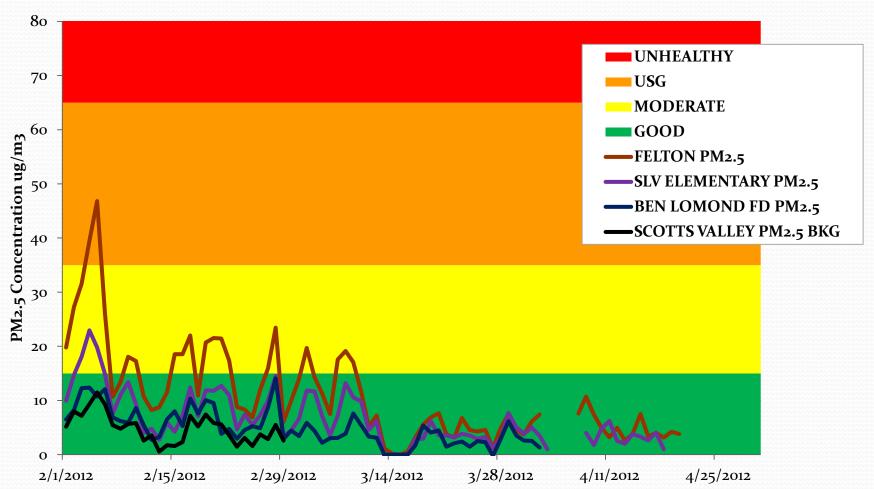
**November to February Peak Smoke Season** 





#### **PM2.5 Daily Monitoring Results**

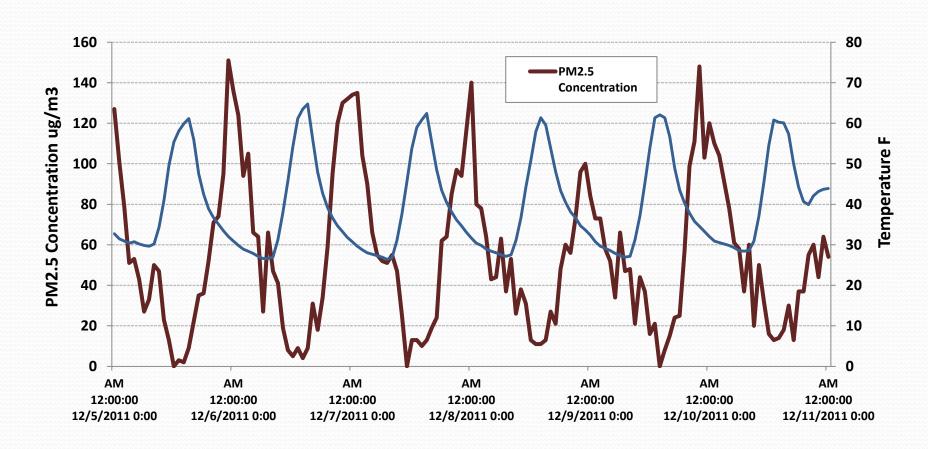
**February to April Smoke Season** 





#### **Hourly PM2.5 and Temperature**

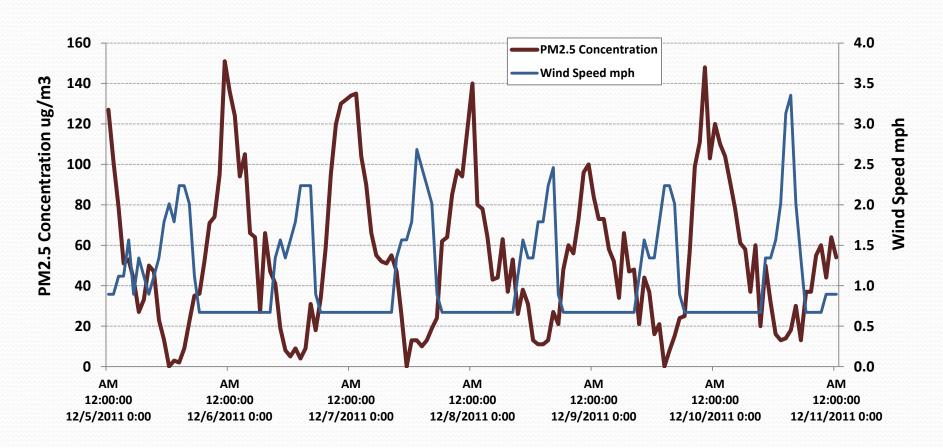
**FELTON – December 5 to 10 Episode Period** 





#### **Hourly PM2.5 and Wind Speed**

**FELTON – December 5 to 10 Episode Period** 





## Summary (Nov-Feb )2011/12

▶ Felton: 42\*\*

> SLV Elementary: 13, all Dec.

**▶** Ben Lomond: 1

Scotts Valley : o

\*\* Missing data of significance.



## Preliminary Findings

- > PM2.5 levels exceed the health standards
  - Woodstove and fireplace sources
  - PM2.5 attainment issues are possible
- Backyard burns impact surrounding residents
  - Nuisance complaints
- ➤ Woodstove Replacement Program was very well received. Fully implemented.
- Curbside pickup of yard waste is not used or available to all.



# As a direct result of the air monitoring

- District presented these results to our Board
- Directed to develop a plan to address the issues
- > Will shape the Districts work for the next 5 to 10 years
  - Monitoring
  - Enforcement
  - Planning
  - Rule Development



## Addressing the Issues

#### Objectives:

- Reduce pollution levels below NAAQS
  - Avoid Non-Attainment designation
- > Reduce complaints to an acceptable level
- > Will require a multiple year effort.



## Strategies

- Public Outreach
- **Enforcement**
- Alternatives and Incentives
- Voluntary Curtailments
- Regulatory Changes
- Evaluation and Monitoring



#### Future Air Monitoring In San Lorenzo Valley

- ➤ A long term PM<sub>2.5</sub> monitoring station will be set up in Felton to collect annual data and monitor potential long term changes in air quality.
- ➤ Will continue with seasonal E-BAM monitoring:
  - ➤ Boulder Creek
  - ➤ The Ben Lomond Fire Station
  - ➤ The Cal-Fire Station or the San Lorenzo Elementary School in Felton



## **Evaluation and Monitoring**

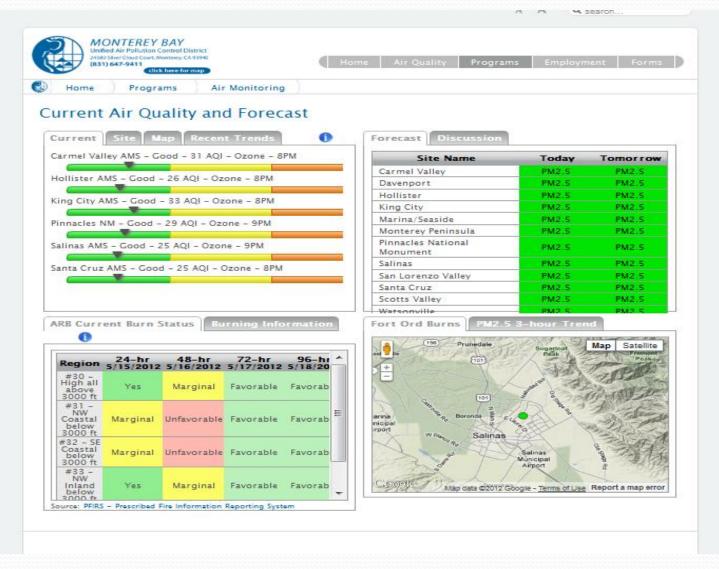
- Critical for accountability and measuring progress
  - Use for mid course corrections as needed
- Develop short term and long term metrics (2013)
  - Air quality
  - Health based (long term)
  - Public complaints
  - Change in number of enforcement cases
- Establish semi permanent air monitoring site (Oct 2012)
  - Include seasonal air monitoring network
  - Report results after 3 years, then annually

## Monitoring Issues

- > Serious short fall in vertical Met measurements
  - No SoDar, Radiometer, RASS or RWP
- Serious shortfall in Meteorological prediction products
  - Need mesoscale products to support Curtailment calls and daily AQI forecasting



## Website Portal



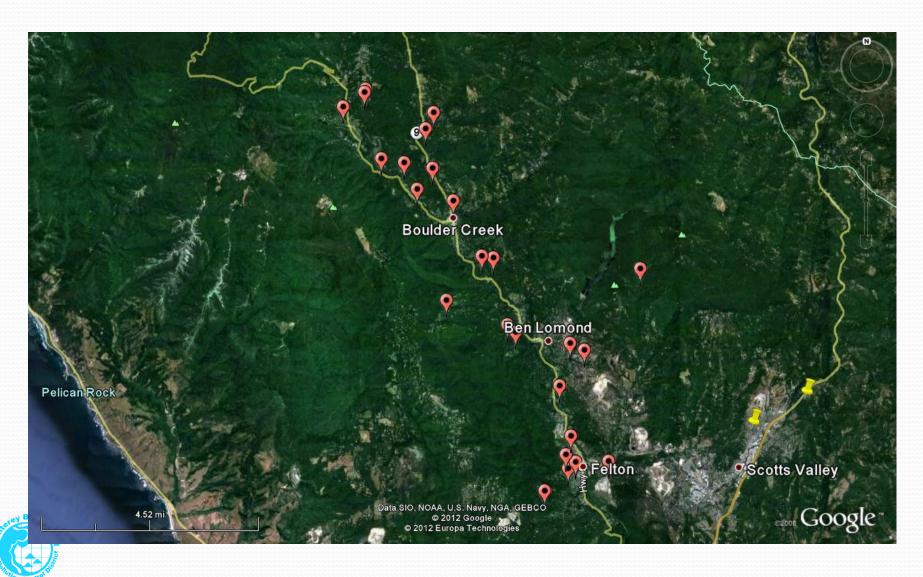


## Follow-up

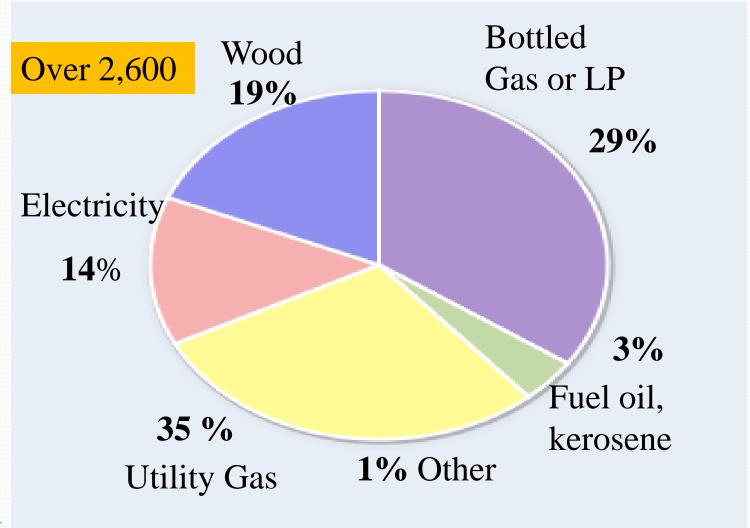
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## San Lorenzo Valley



## Home Heating Choices





## 2011 Woodstove Change-out Summary

AREA	TOTAL CHANGE- OUTS*	EPA CERTIFIED WOODSTOVES/ WS INSERTS	WOOD TO GAS OR PELLET CONVERSIONS	INCOME QUALIFIED
SAN LORENZO Valley	26	18	8	4
Boulder Creek	10	7	3	2
Felton	8	5	3	2
Ben Lomond	6	4	2	O
Brookdale	2	2	O	O
OTHER AREAS	27	13	14	O
AIR BASIN TOTAL	53	31	22 (42%)	4

2/15/2012
\* All Change-Outs
Complete, Except
One.



## **Proposed SSA Boundary**

San Lorenzo Valley General Plan Boundary 2012

